

NOTICE TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF WEB-BASED 314(A) SECURE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

DATE: FEBRUARY 4, 2005

Effective March 1, 2005, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network will fully implement its web-based USA PATRIOT Act Section 314(a) secure communication system. The new system allows for a streamlined, secure web-enabled delivery of 314(a) subject information to financial institutions and a more efficient reporting of matches back to FinCEN.

On February 1, 2005, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network moved to the final parallel processing test phase of the new system. If financial institutions have not yet registered on the new system, please copy the following URL into your Internet browser to complete the registration process and familiarize yourself with basic system navigation and system downloads.

https://www.fincen.gov/314a/

Starting with the March 1, 2005 transmission, FinCEN will only use the modernized, web-based communication system for those institutions that receive the requests electronically. If your institution receives transmissions by fax, that process will not change. The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network has staff available to assist financial institutions with any questions about the new system, or problems with its use. Please call (800) 949-2732 and select Option 2 and then Option 7. Phones are staffed from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays). While most calls are answered live, if all staff are busy assisting other financial institutions you will be transferred to a voice messaging system. Staff will make every attempt to return messages left on the voice messaging system within 24 hours.